

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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NEA-10 OIC-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

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JUSE-00 FTC-01 CCO-00 OTPE-00 FCC-02 OC-06 BIB-01

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ECOSOC

SUBJ: 63RD ECOSOC: AGENDA ITEM 4 - REGIONAL COOPERATION -
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA

1. YUGOSLAVIA ON BEHALF OF G-77 HAS SUBMITTED FOLLOWING DRAFT
RESOLUTION (E/1977/6) UNDER SUBJECT ITEM. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE
G-77 UNDERTOOK NO PRIOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH OTHER DELS.

2. BEGIN TEXT.
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RECOMMENDS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
THE ADOPTION OF THE FOLLOWING DRAFT RESOLUTION:

"THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
"RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS 2626 (XXV) OF 24 OCTOBER 1970 ON THE
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT DECADE, 3202 (S-VI) OF 1 .-6 1974 ON THE PROGRAMME OF
ACTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER,
AND 3362 (S-VII) OF 16 SEPTEMBER 1975 ON DEVELOPMENT AND INTER-
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NATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION, AND IN PARTICULAR THE NEED TO
NARROW THE GAP BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,

"RECOGNIZING THE URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE SUBSTANTIALLY THE TRANSPORT
AND COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE IN AFRICA IN PARTICULAR,

"NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THE INITIATIVE OF THE ORGANIZATION OF

AFRICAN UNITY AND THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTEGRATED AFRICAN ROAD NETWORK AND THE RATIONALIZATION OF AFRICA'S RAILWAY SYSTEMS AS WELL AS OTHER TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE PROMOTION OF MULTINATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN AFRICA, INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE AND THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF AFRICA,

"COMMENDING RESOLUTION 291 (XIII) ENTITLED 'TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA', ADOPTED AT THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION - FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS,

"CONVINCED THAT EFFECTIVE SUPPORT IS REQUIRED FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE PRINCIPLE OF COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLVING AFRICAN PROBLEMS IN THESE SECTORS,

"CONVINCED FURTHER OF THE NEED TO ADOPT AN INTEGRATED APPROACH IN THE FORMULATION OF A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL THE PROBLEMS FACING THE CONTINENT IN THIS FIELD,

"NOTING FURTHER WITH APPRECIATION THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK WHICH IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION AND THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA,

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"WELCOMING THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN THE APPLICATION OF COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES, IN PARTICULAR OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION WHICH, AS THE LEAD AGENCY, HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE REGULATION, CO-ORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD,

"1. ENDORSES THE RECOMMENDATION MADE IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF RESOLUTION 219 (XIII) ADOPTED AT THE THIRTEENTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA - FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS AND PROCLAIMS A TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DECADE IN AFRICA DURING THE YEARS 1978-1988 IN ORDER TO:

(A) GIVE ACTIVE SUPPORT TO THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA AND TO THE APPLICATION OF THAT STRATEGY FOR THE PURPOSE OF SOLVING THE PROBLEMS OF THE CONTINENT IN THIS FIELD: AND

(B) MOBILIZE THE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR THIS PURPOSE;

"2. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PROVIDE ALL NECESSARY ASSIST-

ANCE TO THE AFRICAN STATES WITH A VIEW TO ENABLING THEM TO PREPARE
A DETAILED PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE DECADE;

"3. FURTHER REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CO-OPERATION WITH
THE EXECUTIVE HEADS OF THE AGENCIES CONCERNED, TO MOBILIZE THE
TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED TO MAKE THE DECADE A
SUCCESS;

"4. REQUESTS ALSO THE MEMBER STATES, IN PARTICULAR THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES, TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
PROGRAMMES TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE DECADE;

"5. INVITES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELE-
COMMUNICATION UNION TO PROPOSE FOR CONSIDERATION AS APPROPRIATE
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ONE YEAR DURING THE DECADE AS THE WORLD COMMUNICATIONS YEAR
IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION TO OTHER
REGIONS OF THE WORLD AND TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION ON A DETAILED PROGRAMME
OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE WORLD
COMMUNICATIONS YEAR;

"6. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT TO THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AT ITS THIRTY-THIRD SESSION, THROUGH THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL AT ITS SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION A DETAILED PROGRESS
REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS RESOLUTION AND THEREAFTER
ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTS." END TEXT.

3. COMMENT: OPERATIVE PARA 5 CONCERNING WORLD COMMUNICATIONS
YEAR DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO CENTRAL THEME
OF RESOLUTION. IN ANY CASE, GIVEN OUR GENERAL UNENTHUSIASM FOR
PROLIFERATION OF SPECIAL "YEARS," WE ASSUME DEPT WOULD WISH US TO
TO ATTEMPT ELIMINATE PARA 5 FROM THE RESOLUTION.

4. NOT CLEAR TO USDEL TO WHAT EXTENT RESOLUTION IS COMPATIBLE WITH
CIEC AGREEMENT ON NEED TO BUILD UP INFRASTRUCTURE IN AFRICA
OR TO WHAT EXTENT CIEC AGREEMENT IS REGARDED AS COMMITTING THE US
TO PROVIDING ASSISTANCE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

5. COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCED THIS EVENING THAT RESOLUTION WILL
BE ACTED UPON IN PLENARY AFTERNOON OF JULY 22. REQUEST IMMEDIATE
INSTRUCTIONS AND DEPARTMENT COMMENT.VANDEN HEUVEL

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